

WE CLAIM:

1 1. A lighter comprising:
2 a housing having a supply of fuel;
3 an actuating member moveable to selectively ignite the fuel, the actuating
4 member associated with the housing; and
5 a moveable wand assembly associated with the housing and operatively
6 associated with the actuating member such that when the wand assembly is in a first
7 position, the actuating member is immobilized sufficiently to prevent ignition of the fuel.

1 2. The lighter of claim 1, wherein when the wand assembly is in at least one
2 second position, the actuating member is moveable sufficiently to ignite the fuel.

1 3. The lighter of claim 2, wherein when the wand assembly is positioned
2 between the first and second positions, the actuating member is moveable sufficiently to
3 ignite the fuel.

1 4. The lighter of claim 2, wherein when the wand assembly is positioned
2 between the first and second positions, the actuating member is immobilized sufficiently to
3 prevent ignition of the fuel.

1 5. The lighter of claim 1, wherein the actuator member is substantially
2 immobilized when the wand assembly is in the first position.

1 6. The lighter of claim 1, wherein the wand assembly is pivotally coupled to the
2 housing.

1 7. The lighter of claim 1, wherein the actuating member is slidable.

1 8. The lighter of claim 7, wherein when the wand assembly is in the first
2 position, the actuating member is at least partially prevented from sliding.

1 9. The lighter of claim 1, further comprising a cam follower operatively
2 associated with the housing and including a first portion for interacting with the wand
3 assembly and a second portion for interacting with the actuating member.

1 10. The lighter of claim 9, wherein the wand assembly includes a camming
2 surface and the cam follower first portion interacts with the camming surface.

1 11. The lighter of claim 9, wherein when the wand assembly is in the first
2 position, the cam follower second portion immobilizes the actuating member sufficiently to
3 prevent ignition of the fuel.

1 12. The lighter of claim 9, wherein when the wand assembly is in a second
2 position, the cam follower second portion allows the actuating member to move sufficiently
3 to ignite the fuel.

1 13. The lighter of claim 9, wherein movement of the wand assembly causes the
2 camming surface to move the cam follower.

1 14. The lighter of claim 10, wherein the camming surface defines a first detent
2 for engaging the cam follower first portion when the wand assembly is in the first position.

1 15. The lighter of claim 14, wherein the camming surface further defines a
2 second detent spaced from the first detent for providing resistance against movement of the
3 wand assembly, and the cam follower first portion engages the second detent when the
4 wand assembly is in the second position.

1 16. The lighter of claim 15, wherein the first position is a closed position and the
2 second position is an extended position, and the camming surface further defines at least
3 one additional detent between the first and second detents for engaging the cam follower

1 first portion when the wand assembly is in at least one intermediate position between the
2 first and second positions.

17. The lighter of claim 1, wherein the actuator member is a trigger.

18. The lighter of claim 1, wherein the actuating member is part of an actuating
2 assembly.

19. The lighter of claim 10, wherein the cam follower is biased toward the
2 camming surface.

20. The lighter of claim 1, wherein when the wand assembly is in the first
position, the actuating member is immobilized sufficiently to prevent release of the fuel.

21. The lighter of claim 1, wherein when the wand assembly is in the first
position, the actuating member is immobilized sufficiently to prevent creation of a spark.

22. A lighter comprising:
a housing having a supply of fuel;
an actuating member operable to selectively ignite the fuel, the actuating
member associated with the housing; and
a wand assembly pivotally coupled to the housing, wherein the wand
assembly has a high-wand-force position and a low-wand-force position.

23. The lighter of claim 22, wherein a pivoting force applied to a point on the
wand assembly and sufficient to pivot the wand assembly is greater in the high-wand-force
position than in the low-wand-force position.

24. The lighter of claim 22, further including a cam follower operatively
associated with the housing and including a first engaging portion, wherein the wand

1 assembly includes a second engaging portion, and in the high-wand-force position the first
2 and second engaging portions contact.
3

1 25. The lighter of claim 24, wherein in the low-wand-force position, the first and
2 second engaging portions are out of contact.
3

1 26. The lighter of claim 24, wherein the first engaging portion is an outward
2 protrusion and the second engaging portion is an indentation .
3

1 27. The lighter of claim 24, wherein the first engaging portion is an indentation
2 and the second engaging portion is an outward protrusion.
3

1 28. The lighter of claim 22, wherein the wand assembly is pivotable between a
2 closed position and an extended position, and the high-wand-force and low-wand-force
3 positions are located between the closed position and the extended position.
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1 29. The lighter of claim 22, wherein the wand assembly is slidable between a
2 closed position and an extended position, and the high-wand-force and low-wand-force
3 positions are located between the closed position and the extended position.
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1 30. The lighter of claim 22, wherein in the high-wand-force position the wand
2 assembly is in an extended position, and in the low-wand-force position the wand assembly
3 is in a closed position.
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1 31. The lighter of claim 22, wherein in the high-wand-force position the wand
2 assembly is in a closed position, and in the low-wand-force position the wand assembly is in
3 an extended position.
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1 32. The lighter of claim 22, wherein when the wand assembly is in a first
2 position, the actuating member is immobilized sufficiently to prevent release of the fuel.
3

1 33. The lighter of claim 22, wherein when the wand assembly is in a first
2 position, the actuating member is immobilized sufficiently to prevent creation of a spark.

1 34. A lighter comprising:
2 a housing having a supply of fuel;
3 an actuating member operable to selectively ignite the fuel, the actuating
4 member associated with the housing; and
5 a wand assembly movable between a closed position and an extended
6 position, wherein the wand assembly is releasably positionable in at least one intermediate
7 position between the closed position and the extended position.
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1 35. The lighter of claim 34, wherein the wand assembly is releasably
2 positionable in the extended position.

1 36. The lighter of claim 34, wherein the wand assembly is releasably
2 positionable in the closed position.

1 37. The lighter of claim 34, further comprising a cam follower operatively
2 associated with the housing, wherein the cam follower releasably positions the wand
3 assembly in the at least one intermediate position.

1 38. The lighter of claim 37, wherein the actuating member is moveable to
2 selectively ignite the fuel, and when the wand assembly is in the closed position, the cam
3 follower immobilizes the actuating member sufficiently to prevent ignition of the fuel.

1 39. The lighter of claim 38, wherein when the wand assembly is in the extended
2 position, the cam follower allows the actuating member to move sufficiently to ignite the
3 fuel.

1 40. The lighter of claim 39, wherein when the wand assembly is in the at least
2 one intermediate position, the cam follower immobilizes the actuating member sufficiently
3 to prevent ignition of the fuel.

1 41. The lighter of claim 39, wherein when the wand assembly is in the at least
2 one intermediate position, the cam follower allows the actuating member to move
3 sufficiently to ignite the fuel.

1 42. The lighter of claim 34, wherein the housing defines a longitudinal axis, and
2 the wand assembly pivots about a transversely extending pivot axis that is substantially
3 perpendicular to the longitudinal axis.

1 43. The lighter of claim 42, wherein the housing defines a first side and a second
2 side, and at least a portion of the wand assembly is located between the first side and the
3 second side.

1 44. A lighter comprising:
2 a housing having a supply of fuel;
3 an actuating member for selectively igniting the fuel, the actuating member
4 associated with the housing; and
5 a wand assembly including a hub rotatably connected to the housing and a wand
6 connected to the hub, the hub including an undulating outer surface,
7 wherein the wand pivots about a transversely extending pivoting axis that is
8 substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis.

1 45. A lighter comprising:
2 a housing having a supply of fuel;
3 an actuating member moveable to selectively ignite the fuel, the actuating
4 member associated with the housing; and
5 a wand associated with the housing and moveable between a first position
6 and a second position,

1 wherein when the wand assembly is in the first position the actuating
2 member requires a first actuating force, when the wand assembly is in the second position
3 the actuating member requires a second actuating force, and the first actuating force is
4 greater than the second actuating force.

1 46. The lighter of claim 45, wherein the wand assembly is pivotable between the
2 first position and the second position.

1 47. The lighter of claim 45, further comprising a cam follower operatively
2 associated with the housing and including a first portion for interacting with the wand
3 assembly and a second portion for interacting with the actuating member.

1 48. The lighter of claim 47, wherein the actuating member includes a first
2 surface and the cam follower second portion includes a second surface, and the first and
3 second surfaces are capable of engagement.

1 49. The lighter of claim 48, wherein the first and second surfaces are capable of
2 releasable engagement.

1 50. The lighter of claim 48, wherein the first and second surfaces are
2 substantially vertical.

1 51. The lighter of claim 48, wherein the first and second surfaces are angled.

1 52. A lighter comprising:
2 a housing having a supply of fuel;
3 an ignition assembly for igniting the fuel;
4 a wand assembly associated with the housing;
5 a nozzle for releasing fuel;
6 an actuating member operable to selectively actuate the ignition assembly;
7 and

1 a conduit extending through the wand assembly and including:
2 a tube defining a channel for conveying the fuel from the
3 supply to the nozzle, and
4 a coiled wire received in the channel and electrically
5 connected to the ignition assembly and the nozzle.

1 53. The lighter of claim 52, wherein the wand assembly further includes a metal
2 wand and the lighter further comprises an insulated wire electrically connecting the ignition
3 assembly to the metal wand.

1 54. The lighter of claim 53, wherein the insulated wire is at least partially coiled
2 around the tube.

1 55. The lighter of claim 52, wherein the actuator member is operable to
2 selectively release fuel from the nozzle.

1 56. The lighter of claim 52, wherein the ignition assembly includes a
2 piezoelectric element.

1 57. The lighter of claim 52, wherein the ignition assembly includes a battery.

1 58. A lighter comprising:
2 a housing having a supply of fuel;
3 an ignition assembly for igniting the fuel;
4 a wand assembly pivotally associated with the housing and having a nozzle;
5 an actuating member operable to selectively release fuel from the nozzle and
6 actuate the ignition assembly; and
7 at least one member fluidly connecting the supply to the nozzle and
8 electrically connected to the ignition assembly and the nozzle,

1 wherein the wand assembly pivots about a pivot axis, and the at least
2 member is spaced from the pivot axis and extends at least partially through the wand
3 assembly.

1 59. The lighter of claim 58, wherein the wand assembly defines an aperture
2 spaced from the pivot axis, and at least one member passes through the aperture.

1 60. The lighter of claim 59, wherein the aperture is an arcuate slot.

1 61. The lighter of claim 59, wherein the wand assembly includes a hub, and the
2 aperture is defined in the hub.

1 62. The lighter of claim 61, wherein the hub rotates about an axle, and the
2 aperture is spaced from the axle.

1 63. The lighter of claim 58, further comprising:
2 a first electrode operatively supported by the housing;
3 a conductive member spaced from the first electrode and operatively supported by
4 the housing;
5 a wire electrically connecting the first electrode to the conductive member;
6 a second electrode formed as portion of the ignition assembly; and
7 an electrical conductor operatively associated with the actuating member such that
8 movement of the actuating member moves the electrical conductor, and the electrical
9 conductor is in electrical communication with the conductive member.

1 64. The lighter of claim 63, wherein the electrical conductor is slidable along the
2 conductive member.

1 65. The lighter of claim 63, further including a wand assembly movably
2 connected to the housing, the wand assembly includes the first electrode at a free end.
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